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260913Z Jun 04

UNCLAS ANKARA 003619

SIPDIS

BAGHDAD PLEASE ALSO PASS TO MNF-I

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PREL](#) [IZ](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: TURKEY OFFICIALLY REQUESTS INFORMATION ON THE  
DEATH OF TURKISH NATIONAL IN IRAQ

1. This is an action requested -- see para 2.

2. On June 25, the Embassy received diplomatic note number 2204/KOKD/262781, dated June 23, 2004, requesting information on an alleged incident on June 18 in which a Turkish national was killed by U.S. forces at a check point between Ramadi and Fallujah and suggesting indemnity for the death may be due. (Comment: We understand that, to date, MNF-I has not been able to confirm that this incident occurred.) ACTION REQUEST: Embassy requests guidance on how to respond.

3. Begin text of informal Embassy translation of MFA note:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic presents its complement to the Embassy of the United States of America and wishes to inform the Embassy of the following issue:

Many media agencies covered the news on the death of Turkish national Faysal Demir, born in 1968 in Hatay-Reyhanli, son of Ibrahim and Subhiye, who was shot in the head after American soldiers opened fire to him on June 18, 2004 in Hamidiye, Iraq.

The owner of Musluoglu Co., subcontractor of Tepe Construction Co., and his Iraqi partner, Haji Hayat, approached the Embassy of Turkey in Baghdad and provided the following information on the matter.

On June 18, 2004, Ali Muftuoglu and Faysal Demir departed in the direction of Baghdad through Syria. On 4:30 PM of the same day they were stopped at the check point set by US soldiers located at Hamidiye, between Ramadi and Fallujah, 40 km east of Ramadi. American soldiers opened fire at their car and the Turkish national Faysal Demir, who was sitting in the back seat of the car, was shot in the head and died. According to Muftuoglu, if the Iraqi police had not intervened, the other 4 passengers of the car would have been shot to death as fire was opened up from the right front of the car after the vehicle stopped and there was no threat from the vehicle. Muftuoglu was injured in the legs.

Furthermore, there are allegations to the effect that American soldiers had drunk alcohol.

The mentioned persons brought the car to the Embassy of Turkey in Baghdad. The results of the investigation made by the Embassy officials in Baghdad shows that the car was shot in its right side after it stopped.

The mentioned Turkish national,s right to indemnity on the way he was killed is preserved.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkish Republic requests the Embassy provide information to the Turkish side after the completion of related investigations within the shortest possible time.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Turkish Republic avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the USA the assurances of its highest consideration.

4. Baghdad minimize considered.

EDELMAN